



**PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET**

**Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction**

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Deputy Commissioner

DATE: May 22, 2015

TO: All Master HVAC Contractors and Authorities Having Jurisdiction

FROM: Roger D. Banks Jr., Director *RB*  
Division of HVAC

RE: Duct Pressure Testing Effective July 1, 2015.

This correspondence is to serve as a reminder to all Master HVAC Contractors and Authorities Having Jurisdiction of the upcoming change in method to verify duct sealing. Effective July 1, 2015, all residential duct systems located in unconditioned spaces must be pressure tested in accordance with section 403.2.2 of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code. All types of ducts located in residential unconditioned spaces must be sealed by means of tapes, mastics, gaskets or other approved closure systems and pressure tested. Visual inspection will no longer be an option. Installations that have not been visually inspected and passed by July 1 will require a duct pressure test. Even permits pulled prior to July 1 will require a duct pressure test if the inspection of the duct sealing has not been completed. Also, "residential" is not just dwellings covered in the One and Two Family Kentucky Residential Code. Residential buildings are defined in the Kentucky Building Code and the 2009 IECC and include structures such as condos, apartments, and other multi-family dwellings.

The Division of HVAC will recognize a duct pressure test performed by an HVAC master contractor, his/her employee, or the builder doing a whole house blower door test in partnership with the HVAC contractor. The HVAC inspector will not be required to witness tests performed, but may request to at random. If there is question as to the legitimacy of the test results, witnessing of the test may also be required. The test does not have to be witnessed by the inspector, the attached form, or similar form provided by the authority having jurisdiction, should be used for each system and emailed to the inspector or left at the air handler with the manufacturer's instructions. The Division will also accept an energy report which includes duct tightness verification submitted by a certified energy rater/tester.

Please check the Department website periodically to stay up to date on code changes and/or interpretations.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office or your regional State HVAC Inspector.



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